Dyche Lane
Sheffield
S8 8BR

Telephone: 0114 2372 723
Email: enquiries@meadowhead.sheffield.sch.uk

Meadowhead School

We Make A Difference

Headteacher
Kam Grewal-Joy
Deputy Headteacher
Tamsin Woodward

DSH/SGI
September 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

RE: Relationships, Sex and Health Education at Meadowhead

Following consultations with students, parents and teachers, the school has published its new Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) policy and curriculum to show how it meets statutory guidance from the government. You can view Meadowhead's updated policy here – the topics and units are included in Appendix 1: Relationships, Sex and Health Education - Meadowhead School.

The government guidance has been significantly updated for this academic year and includes requirements on schools in the following areas:

- Greater emphasis on misogyny, violence against women and girls.
- New focus on keeping safe and aspects of personal safety.
- Staying safe online and recognising online harms - a significant emphasis on the importance of digital education which incorporates media literacy.
- Providing positive male role models and building self-esteem of boys and men.
- Additional emphasis on supporting mental health and reference to bereavement, grief, loss and loneliness.
- Parental engagement and transparency: a new section on openness with parents.
- Recognition of financial exploitation and its impact on safeguarding.
- Clarity of how schools on how schools should teach the protected characteristic of gender reassignment and support gender-questioning students.

Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) at Meadowhead School ensures that our young people are confident, knowledgeable, and empowered to make good choices. Our policy is clear that our curriculum does not "normalise early sexual experimentation". Instead, RSHE is about the emotional, social and cultural development of pupils, and involves learning about relationships, sexual health, sexuality, healthy lifestyles, diversity and personal identity. We believe that effective relationship and sex education is essential if young people are to make responsible and well-informed decisions about their lives.

Most of the RSHE curriculum is taught within the Ethics curriculum and lessons. Our curriculum and lessons are carefully designed to provide students with the relevant age-appropriate information that students need to keep themselves safe. Y7, Y8 and Y9 students have two lessons of Ethics a week. Y10 and Y11 students have one lesson a week. From 2022-23, Y12 and Y13 students also have one lesson of Ethics a week.

If you have any questions or concerns about the curriculum your child is studying, please contact your child's Ethics teachers via enquiries@meadowhead.sheffield.sch.uk.

Yours faithfully

D. Sheppard

Mr D Sheppard
Assistant Headteacher

Meadowhead School Academy Trust. A company limited by guarantee. Registered in England
Registered company address: Dyche Lane, Sheffield, S8 8BR. Company Registered Number 07933749